

The Flivver Flash

The Official Newsletter of the Space City T's - Houston, TX

My Grandfather's Retirement Play Toy

by Doug Brough

In 2014, I inherited (sort of) a 1926 Touring which was my grandfather's retirement play toy. I'm finding out that the car, while looking quite nice, has some mechanical problems. One is that antifreeze is leaking into the motor oil. I first noticed this when I brought the car home and did the first oil change. I took the head off, cleaned up everything, put a new head gasket on and thought my problem was solved. It was, for a while. I recently changed the oil and found antifreeze in the oil again. Ugh.

I pulled the head again and also removed the oil pan. With the water pump off, I sealed up the water inlet and filled the block with water to see if maybe I had a leak in the water passages. After several days of sitting, no sign of a leak.

Christmas Party on Sunday, December 5th!

Website: www.spacecityts.org

Email: ModelT@spacecityts.org

Next, I got a metal straight edge and checked the block and head. The block was straight, thankfully. The head, not so much.



That's a 0.006 feeler gauge that I have between the head and the metal ruler. That was the worst.

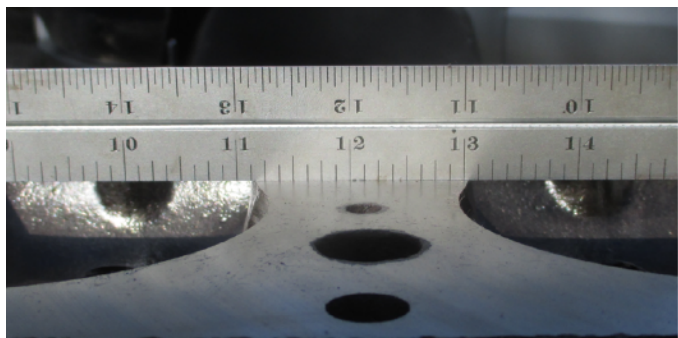
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I could fit feeler gauges in other parts of the head, too (generally 0.002 to 0.003). So, time to find a machine shop.

As I live in SW Houston, I looked for a shop nearby. Following the advice of Dave Lucas, I looked for a mom and pop shop vs any national chain, hoping to get a better price point. I found Motor Head Machine Shop in Stafford, TX. It was a match made in heaven as when I brought the head in, the owner (a nearly 80 year old) told me all about his first car, a 1929 Model A. He definitely knew his craft. He also freely shared his opinions on life and problems of the world (reminded me of some of you – just kidding). Anyway, I left the head with him and within a week it was done.



The dark spots you see are some sort of stain/discoloration, not rust.



And you can see, that sucker is straight now! The head was cleaned, magnafluxed and milled. It came out very well.

Tis back on the car. I had already tried all the tricks I read about in various forums (painted the gasket with aluminum paint, soaked the gasket in water and put grease on the gasket before installing). Time will tell if the problem is solved (the leak was always very slow). Fingers crossed!

2021 Space City T's Christmas Dinner Party

SUNDAY DECEMBER 5, 2021

**CHRISTIES SEAFOOD
RESTAURANT 6:00pm**

Please RSVP for a head count:

Dave Lucas at: (713) 299-3059

Men should bring a man's gift and women bring a woman's gift with a value of \$20 to \$25.

You may also bring a new unwrapped Toys for Tots gift, as an option, if anyone wishes to bring one.

It is very important to have a head count or we may get charged for the room or have to guarantee a payment for a number of plates.

My New Old 24 Touring

by Steve Wirtes

For those of you who don't know me , I am a new member of the Space City T's of Houston. For those of you who do know me, yes, I bought another car: a 1924 Ford Model T Touring car. Not sure when she's going to arrive but hopefully soon.

The seller, George, called me shortly after Freightier Jim, the delivery truck driver, texted me a copy of this picture:



George is on the far right and the fella on the left is George's son, Jimmy. The guy in the middle is just a helpful friend. Jimmy has a 1914 brass Touring Model T, seen below with my new old 24 Touring.



According to Freightier Jim, he has a car to drop off in Oklahoma and then down to me in Clear Lake Shores. I asked him for an approximate ETA and all he said was he had a couple of thousand miles to drive and did not know. Sounds like he does not like to commit. I can appreciate that, but I wanted to get a heads up.

Freightier Jim had a serious transmission failure on his tow vehicle, and my Touring got delayed enroute! Now that Freightier Jim has it repaired, I may get my Touring in early December. Here's hoping.

George reiterated the fact that my car was in the movie *Mr. North*, as well as *The Great Gatsby*! I'm assuming it would be the second Mr. North movie which was produced in 1974 with Robert Redford and Paul Newman. The original *Great Gatsby* movie came out in 1926, and it has been redone four additional times, the latest in 2013 with Leonardo DiCaprio.



I secured a copy of the movie *Mr. North* and watched it. Sure enough, my car was in there three times! George was kind enough to include the license plate which indicated Rhode Island 1926 when the movie was supposed to have been filmed in Newport, Rhode Island. Of course, the movie was filmed in 1988 in Providence, Rhode Island. The license plate number is 550.

George mentioned the movie cast signed the license plate. The cast included Lauren Bacall, Anjelica Huston, and Robert Mitchum. I paused the movie and took a picture showing the same license plate on my car.



Evidently, Freightier Jim, who is going to deliver our Model T soon, also publishes YouTube videos. Here he is talking with the father and son who have sold me their Model T. The car depicted is my car and he makes reference to me as the man in Houston, Texas:

<https://youtu.be/YrAJn8Est6s>

Hopefully, we can join in with some club activities in the future.

Christmas Season Event in League City

by Bobby Wright

Event: The League City Historical Society (LCHS) is working on a Christmas event in Old League City.

When: December 11th (Saturday) and 12th (Sunday). Time 10am to 3pm each day. Note: LCHS suggests if you can only participate one day Saturday would be the best day. The event actually starts at 10am so you need to be there by 9am allowing time to unload and move your vehicle to parking locations at the various homes.

Where: "Old" League City is more or less the 2nd - 3rd Streets and South Kansas Street area.

Questions: Contact Bobby Wright at 409-771-5548 (Call or Text) or email to bcw545800@gmail.com.

Please let Bobby know if you think you will attend. Would like to give LCHS an idea of attendance.

Other Events

Dec 11th - Saturday - Legacy Ford Annual Toys For Tots Car Show - @ Legacy Ford Rosenberg 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM Entry Fee : One or More New Toys or Cash Donations for Toys For Tots who will have their vans at the show - Coordinated by Mustang Club of Houston. See Flyer on next page:



LEGACY FORD ANNUAL TOYS FOR TOTS



DECEMBER 11, 2021

LEGACY FORD, 27225 SOUTHWEST FRWY, ROSENBERG TX

OPEN TO ALL CARS, TRUCKS & MOTORCYCLES

REGISTRATION 8-11AM SHOW 8AM-2PM (RAIN OR SHINE)

JUDGING STARTS AT 12PM AWARDS AT 2PM

ENTRY FEE: ONE UNWRAPPED TOY

**TWO BEST OF SHOW
AWARDS WIN \$400 CASH
TOP 20 PARTICIPANTS'
CHOICE AWARDS**



APRIL SOUND CAR SHOW

By Denny Irvine

APRIL SOUND 4TH ANNUAL SHOW & SHINE
CARS, MOTORCYCLES, JEEPS, TRUCKS, ALL YEARS MAKES & MODELS

APRIL SOUND COUNTRY CLUB
1000 APRIL SOUND BLVD. MONTGOMERY, TX
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2021
10 AM TIL 2 PM
EARLY ARRIVAL - 9 AM
NO REFUNDS - RAIN OR SHINE
RAIN OUT DATE OCTOBER 30, 2021

TEXAS TEAM FOUNDATION

50/50 RAFFLE

TOP 28 RECEIVE TROPHIES

TOP 28 RECEIVE TROPHIES • 50/50 RAFFLE • DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS • FOOD & DRINKS • FREE TO THE PUBLIC • ROCK & ROLL DJ

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFITTING
TEXAS TEAM FOUNDATION
www.texas-team.org
WHO DO WE HELP? OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE CRITICAL SUPPORT TO VETERANS, FIRST RESPONDERS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE STATE OF TEXAS.

\$25 EARLY REGISTRATION \$30 DAY OF EVENT

"BEST OF CATEGORIES"

CLASSIC CAR	MUSTANG - ALL YEARS
CLASSIC TRUCK	CAMARO - ALL YEARS
MODIFIED CAR	CORVETTE - ALL YEARS
MODIFIED TRUCK	MOPAR - ALL YEARS
MODERN MUSCLE	MOST UNIQUE
CLASSIC MUSCLE (INCLUDES TRANS AM, GTD, BUICK, OLDS, AMC, NOVA, CHEVELLE, COUGAR, THUNDERBOLT)	CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE
RAT RODS	MODIFIED MOTORCYCLE
JEEPS-MODIFIED	BEST OF SHOW
IMPORT	BEST PAINT AWARD
NOT ROD	BEST INTERIOR
MILITARY/PATRIOTIC	BEST OF SHOW MOTORCYCLE
TRI-FIVE	BEST OF SHOW JEEP
	BEST OF SHOW TRUCK, "MANDY'S CHOICE"
	APRIL SOUND COUNTRY CLUB CHOICE

TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT GO TO WWW.TEXASTEAMFOUNDATION.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT TOM CONNINGHAM AT 281.827.7959 OR TRUCKCONSULTANT@NET

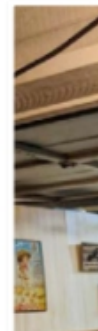
You probably saw the flyer—Car Show on the shore of Lake Conroe—April Sound. And pretty close to where I live. Wasn't sure I needed to go and spend \$25, but then I got an email from Gary Hengst. He is the President of the Lonestar T's in Dallas. You can see his newsletter article and picture below. His son also lives nearby, so we decided to meet for the show and do a drive Sunday.

President's Note



To Store or Not To Store...

OK, I'm fed up with the clutter in my garage! It's a two car garage that is really a one car garage since I put up a wall down the center to set off an area for a shop/shelving area. But even so, now I can't even get my Touring in the "garage" side because of too much clutter. And what exactly is clutter? Well, the dictionary defines it as "a



Turned out to be a big show! 28 different trophies sponsored by Team Texas, who gave a \$5000 check to the wife of a recent officer shooting victim. Biggest surprise was one of the judges who came from Nacadoches—Benny Guseman! But that didn't help the three Model T entrants. We didn't win anything, not even a door prize. But we did meet up with SCMT member Mike Schlitzus and his 1943 **FORD** Jeep GPW which he had just finished restoring. Mike took top honors in the Military category. You gotta see his Jeep in person!



The Flivver Flash is published by the Space City T's chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America in Houston, Texas twelve times per year. This newsletter is produced for the education and enjoyment of members and those expressing interest in joining the Space City T's. Said education and enjoyment is as it pertains to the Model T Ford automobile. The Flash is also shared with other antique auto clubs. Other clubs may use articles from this publication with credit to this newsletter or the original source. News, articles, ads or anything of interest to the club must be submitted to the editor by the 20th of the month preceding the month of publication. Emailing takes place the last week of the month. Annual dues are \$25 per year.

2022 Space City Club Officers and Board Members

President	Dave Lucas	281-388-0761
Vice President	David Carter	713-875-1049
Secretary	Bruce Carter	713-703-2958
Treasurer	Jerry Smith	281-461-9906
Board Member	Rick McCracken	281-726-5695
Board Member	Bobby Wright	409-771-5548
Board Member	Anthony J. Marino	281-482-4156

THE FLIVVER FLASH

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email: modelt@spacecityts.org



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For Sale: 1929 Model A Boat-Tail Speedster



2016 Keels & Wheels pics

'Boat-tail' is from two 1947 International pickup hoods, 4 cylinder Model A motor with Stromberg downdraft carburetor, & modern intake manifold, Kelsey 16" *bent spoke* wheels, and rebuilt brake & electrical systems.

\$9250 OBO

Anthony J. Marino
832-607-8528 mobile
281-482-4156 home,
leave a message or
topkick7@comcast.net

New Members Wanted

Please visit our [Space City T's of Houston Texas web site](http://SpaceCityT'sofHoustonTexas.com). If interested in becoming a member, please provide your name, address, mobile phone, & email, and make a \$25 check payable to the:

Space City T's

Please mail your information form and check to the Treasurer at:

Jerry Smith
13723 Llano Lake Court
Houston, TX 77059

A special "Thank You" to all club members who paid their 2022 dues!

The Space City T's Club is the Houston, Texas chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America. All questions concerning membership, The Vintage Ford magazine, the MTFCA library, chapter insurance, purchase of manuals, back magazine issues, or store items can be directed to the following:

Model T Ford Club of America

309 N. 8th Street, PO BOX 996
Richmond, IN 47375-0996
Phone: 765-855-5248

Email: rachel@mtfca.com

\$40 annual dues includes six issues of the Vintage Ford

Join MTFCA at: www.mtfca.com

FLIVVER FLASH INPUTS NEEDED

Do you have something to share? A barn find, funny or not so funny Model T stories? Tour photos, or articles about Model T's? Your Model T acquisition stories, restoration photos or swap meet finds? A special interest article?

Please email ads, articles, photos, stories, etc. etc. to: topkick7@outlook.com

Next In-Person Meeting Cancelled

December 8, 2021



**Dine with Friends at
Demeris BBQ at 6:00 P.M.**

**located at
1702 West Loop North,
Suite A, Houston, TX 77008**

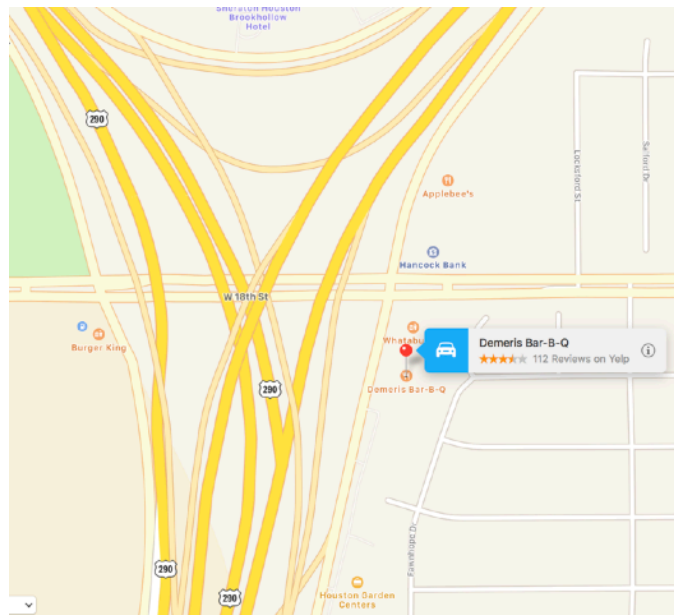
**Then attend the
Space City T's Meeting at 7:30 P.M.**

Place:

**Lazy Brook Baptist Church
—1822 West 18th Street in the
Heights**

Website: www.spacecityts.org

Email: modelt@spacecityts.org

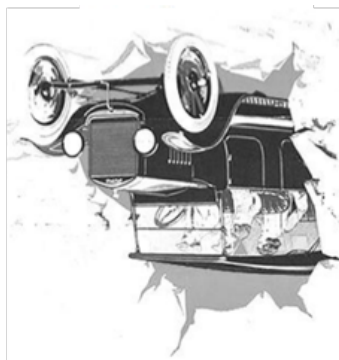


Directions to Demeris BBQ

From the east or west on I-10 or the south side of downtown, take the I-610 West Loop North and get off at the 18th Street Exit. Demeris BBQ will be immediately on the right after Houston Garden Nursery.

From the west on Highway 290, exit at Mangum and turn right to 18th Street. At 18th, turn left, cross under West Loop and turn into the Whataburger parking lot on the right. Proceed to Demeris BBQ after the Whataburger.

From the north on I-45, take the 610 North Loop West around to the I-610 West Loop South to the Hempstead Highway exit. Make a U-turn under I-610 and proceed north on the frontage road to just before 18th Street, Demeris BBQ will be on your right after Houston Garden Center.



First Class Mail



Space City T's of Houston
Anthony J. Marino
302 Torrey Court
League City, Texas 77573

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